

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-10, 16-26, 57, 59, and 60-64, 66-75, and 77-79 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 16, 57, 59, 60, 66-69, and 77-79 being independent.

Claims 65 and 76 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 60, 66-68, and 77-78 have been amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the original disclosure at least, for example, at page 19, line 22 through page 20, line 11 and page 37, line 24 through page 39, line 16. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicant's note with appreciation the indication that Claims 1-26, 57, and 59 have been allowed over the cited art.

Claims 60-79 stand rejected under 35.U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,982,891 (Ginter et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

As recited in independent Claim 60, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the features of extracting data control information from data, the data control information including step-by-step inhibitions for use with a process for the data, and displaying a notification related to an instructed process, wherein the notification is displayed in different manners in accordance with each of the step-by-step inhibitions. Independent Claims 66-68 recite similar features.

As recited in independent Claim 69, the present invention includes, among others, the features of extracting data control information from data, the data control information

including step-by-step inhibitions for use with a process for the data, and displaying information for instructing execution of a process for the data, wherein the display style of the information is changed in accordance with each of the step-by-step inhibitions. Independent Claims 77-79 recite similar features.

Due to the above-mentioned features, since a notification is displayed in a different manner in accordance with each of the step-by-step inhibitions (or a display style of information for instructing execution of a process is changed in accordance with each of the step-by-step inhibitions, a user can readily notice each inhibition in the step-by-step data processes. Applicants submit that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features.

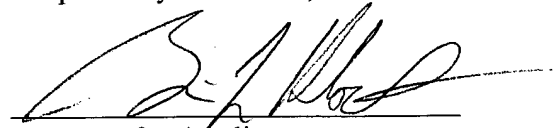
Ginter et al. discloses VDE control instructions to encapsulate and electronically distribute content that was partially secured. However, that reference does not disclose or suggest at least the features of displaying a notification in different manners, or changing a display style of information, in accordance with step-by-step inhibitions. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent Claims 60, 66-69, and 77-79 are also patentable over the cited art.

The remaining dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

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